



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: August 17, 2015

To: Keith Creagh, Director

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Comprehensive Resource Management Plan for Drummond Island
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, authorizes the Department of Natural Resources "the Department" to plan and conduct wildlife management within Michigan.

Discussion and Background:

The Department developed a draft Comprehensive Resource Management Plan "the plan" for Drummond Island in cooperation with island residents and stakeholders. In July 2012, the background of the plan and summary of the specific recommendations were presented to the Natural Resources Commission. The summary detailed strategies for quality hunting, fishing and trapping opportunities, and for showcasing Drummond Island as a destination for natural resources-based tourism.

Drummond Island has a popular off-road-vehicle and snowmobile trail network. The plan recommends the development of a hiking trail, campsites, and several boat launches. Recreational facilities have been developed on approximately 8,000 acres of public land on Drummond Island. Under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, PA 451 of 1994, MCL 324.40501 (Assent Law), the State agreed or "assented" to not use license fees paid by hunters for any purpose other than game and fish activities.

Due to the complexity of land use on Drummond Island, the Department worked with federal partners over several years to resolve specific issues. In order to implement the plan and to address any land management requirements on Drummond Island, a re-designation process is proposed for those lands being used for non-fish and wildlife purposes. Re-designation will exchange management of those lands used for non-fish and game purposes with lands that can be managed exclusively for game and fish activities. Re-designation of the appropriate parcels on Drummond Island is currently before the Director for information and will be eligible for Director approval at the November 5th Natural Resources Commission meeting.

August 17, 2015

Recommendation:

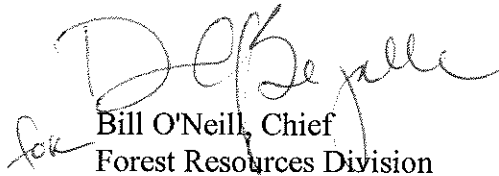
With implementation of the re-designation of certain parcels of Department-managed lands on Drummond Island, we recommend the Plan for information and consideration. The plan may be eligible for approval on November 5th, 2015. We further recommend that the plan be reviewed on a three-year cycle.



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division




for Bill O'Neill, Chief
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



William E. Moritz, Ph.D.
Natural Resources Deputy